

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW *ASPILIA* FROM TRINIDAD.

BY S. F. BLAKE.

A composite from Trinidad, British West Indies, recently referred to me for determination by Dr. N. L. Britton, proves to represent a new species of *Aspilium*. It is described here in order that the name may be available for use in another connection.

Aspilium nigropunctatum Blake, sp. nov.

Shrub 2 meters high; stem herbaceous above, slender, strigose, the internodes 7 to 13 cm. long; leaves opposite; petioles 6 to 11 mm. long, hispid-pilose or strigose; blades ovate, 6.5 to 10 cm. long, 3 to 4 cm. wide, acuminate, at base acute, papery, serrulate (the teeth small, 3 to 6 mm. apart), dark green above, somewhat paler green beneath, evenly but not densely strigose and strigillose on both sides, bearing black dots along the veinlets on the lower surface, triplinerved about 1 cm. above the base, the primary veins prominulous on both sides, the secondaries not prominulous; heads 1 to 5 at tips of stem and branches, about 2 cm. wide, on puberulous and strigose pedicels 3 to 5 cm. long; disk 6 to 8 mm. high, 7 to 9 mm. thick; involucre 3-seriate, 9 to 10 mm. high, scarcely graduated, the outer phyllaries 4, oblong-ovate, 3 to 6 mm. wide, with pale indurated base and subequal reflexed or spreading acute black-dotted herbaceous apex, strigose on their exposed surface; two inner series oblong-oval, rounded, subscarious, essentially glabrous, black-dotted and lined above; rays yellow, about 8, neutral, the lamina oval, 9 to 11 mm. long, 5 mm. wide; disk corollas yellow, with the teeth papillose-barbate within near the margin, otherwise glabrous, 5 mm. long (tube slender, 1.2 mm., throat tubular-funnelform, 2.3 mm., teeth triangular, 1.5 mm.); achenes somewhat compressed, blackish brown, obovoid, 3.5 mm. long, rather sparsely pilose, sometimes narrowly wing-margined toward base; pappus coroniform, 0.5 mm. long, lacerate-fimbriate, contracted at base into a short neck, without awns.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, No. 1,047,159, collected on a moist bank at Mt. Tocuche, Trinidad, April 3-5, 1920, by N. L. Britton, T. E. Hazen, and W. Mendelson (No. 1320).

This species is close to **Aspilia verbesinoides** (DC.) Blake,¹ also of Trinidad, of which I have seen authentic material in the Gray Herbarium. The latter species, however, has lance-ovate leaves prominently reticulate beneath and smaller heads, and the awns of the pappus are present and distinctly longer than the squamellae. Its name-bringing synonym, *Gymnopsis verbesinoides* DC., was wrongly referred by O. E. Schulz² to the synonymy of *Wedelia jacquini caracasana* (DC.) O. E. Schulz.

¹*Gymnopsis verbesinoides* DC. Prodr. 5:561. 1836.

²In Urb. Symb. Antill. 7:105. 1911.